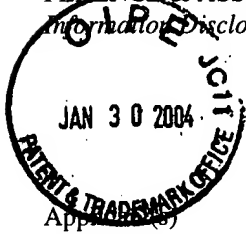


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3624
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FERENCE & ASSOCIATES
Information Disclosure Statement

Atty. Docket No. CH9-1998-0004
(590.059)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : Abad-Peiro et al. Group Art: 3624
Serial No. : 09/787,753 Examiner: not yet assigned
Filed : June 11, 2001
For : METHOD OF IMPROVING SECURITY IN ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS

HON. ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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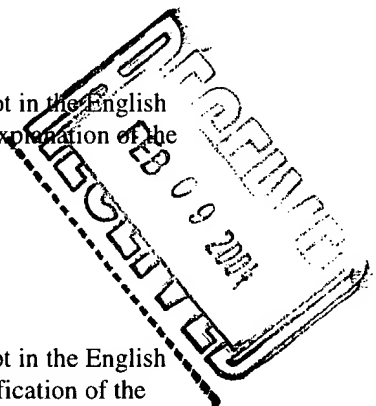
GROUP 3600

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on Form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed, may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other items than those identified herein exist. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. ☒ For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is enclosed:

A: PUPA WO97/41539
B: PUPA WO98/40809
2. ☐ For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application.
3. ☐ Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the prior ☐ Continuation, ☐ Divisional or ☐ Continuation-In-Part application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.60, U.S. Serial No. _____, filed _____.
4. ☒ No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:



- ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application.
- ☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.
5. ☐ No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the verifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.
6. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action):
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee.
- ☐ Please charge **IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 50-0510** the amount of \$180.00, to cover the fee. In the event of non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit **Deposit Account No. 50-0510** as required to correct the error.
7. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
- a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and
 - b. the attached petition requesting consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and
 - c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
8. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:
- a. ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue.
 - b. ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue.
 - c. ☐ The fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

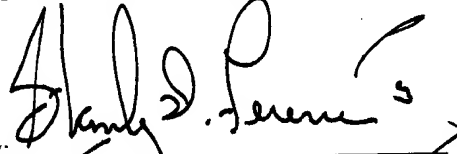
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Information Disclosure Statement

Atty. Docket No. CH9-1998-0004
(590.059)

9. ☒ I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
10. ☐ A check in the amount of \$130.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

Respectfully submitted,

FERENCE & ASSOCIATES

By: 
Stanley D. Ference III
Registration No. 33,879

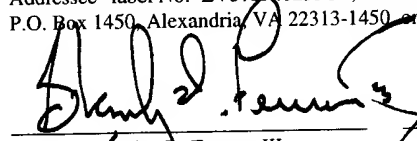
Dated: 30 January 2004

Mailing Address:

FERENCE & ASSOCIATES
400 Broad Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15143
(412) 741-8400
(412) 741-9292 - Facsimile

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any documents referred to as enclosed therewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" label No. EV372941253US, addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 30 January 2004.


Stanley D. Ference III
Reg. No. 33,879

30 January 2004
Date of Signature

